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West. Europe, [REDACTED], Int. Organizations

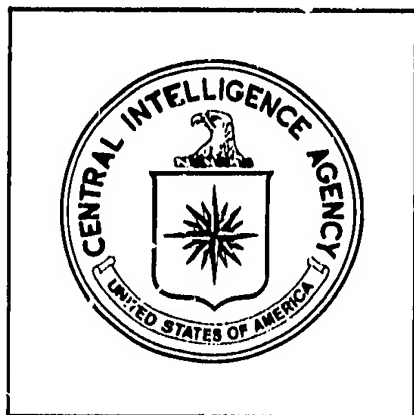
Approved for Release 2000/09/14 : CIA-RDP86T00608R000400120047-5

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S/NFD/ 1 of 1
No. 0152-75

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STAFF NOTES:

Western Europe



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International Organizations

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No. 0152-75

March 13, 1975

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WESTERN EUROPE - [REDACTED] - INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

This publication is prepared for regional specialists in the Washington community by the Western Europe Division, Office of Current Intelligence, with occasional contributions from other offices within the Directorate of Intelligence. Comments and queries are welcome. They should be directed to the authors of the individual articles.

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Phone: 143-6884

New Danish Government Passes First Major Test

After a week of tough negotiations, Danish Prime Minister Jorgensen announced on March 11 that parliament had passed legislation to settle the stalemated national wage negotiations which threatened to lead to widespread strikes.

The new wage contract extends the 1973 contract for another two years and provides for a slight increase. Additional bills pad the major law with such provisions as setting limits on cost-of-living increases to civil servants, a freeze on dividends, and a mark-up of goods and services.

Labor talks collapsed on March 4 when both employers and labor balked at a compromise proposed by the national mediator. To head off strikes, the government intervened by introducing draft legislation that closely approximated the national mediator's proposal. Passage of the legislation was uncertain because former Prime Minister Hartling had announced that his Moderate Liberals would oppose the government's bill. When it became clear that the Jorgensen legislation would pass without Hartling's support, the Moderate Liberals decided to back the legislation with a few minor concessions.

The Jorgensen government successfully passed its first major test. The only hitch was the opposition of the three parties of the far left, which tried to organize labor opposition to the legislation. Only 3,000 workers participated, but 30,000 stopped work for the day. (Confidential)

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CCD Stalled on Establishing Nuclear
Study Group

The efforts of the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament (CCD), now meeting in Geneva, to establish a group to study the question of nuclear free zones have bogged down over disagreements about the composition of the group. The Soviet and US co-chairmen of the committee differ considerably on how the seats on the proposed study group should be apportioned among their respective allies. A proposed compromise has now encountered the opposition of the non-aligned states and their acceptance of the package plan is uncertain.

Last fall the General Assembly directed the CCD to conduct a study of all aspects of nuclear free zones--an increasingly popular nonproliferation option. The final report of the study group is not expected to present a consensus on the nuclear free zone concept.

The CCD co-chairmen originally foresaw limiting membership in the study group to 25 participants: four Western states, four Eastern states, six to eight nonaligned states and a small number of non-CCD members that have expressed interest in the nuclear free zone concept. While this formula was generally acceptable to most CCD members, the Soviets subsequently insisted that Australia, although admitted to the committee as a non-CCD member, should be considered a Western state for political reasons. To achieve the

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required balance in the committee's political complexion, therefore, the Soviets readjusted the figures and demanded five seats for Eastern states.

Because the full CCD numbers only 30 active members, the committee's co-chairmen decided to compromise their differences by throwing open the study group's membership to the total CCD, while still permitting a limited number of non-CCD members to participate. The nonaligned states, however, are resisting this proposed enlargement of the study group and are expected to meet today to decide their final position. (Confidential No Foreign Dissem)

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Irmak Abandons Effort To Form Turkish Government

Prime Minister Irmak today abandoned his effort to form a new coalition government but will remain in office as head of the caretaker regime.

President Koruturk has given no indication of what his next move will be, but none of the available options is likely to appear very attractive to him. He may believe that he has no choice but to allow the rightist, four-party National Front try to form a government.

Koruturk has previously rejected the National Front--headed by Justice Party leader Demirel--out of fear that the presence of the Islamic-oriented National Salvation Party and the extreme right-wing National Action Party would polarize the nation and lead to more clashes between right and left political factions. With this in mind, Koruturk might decide to request another independent--one who is more attractive to conservatives than Irmak--to try to form a conservative coalition that would exclude the extremists.

Meanwhile, the Turkish armed forces are still in a "precautionary" alert status. Thus far, this show of force does not appear to have impressed the politicians, who apparently do not believe that the military is prepared to assume responsibility for dealing with Turkey's increasingly difficult problems. New elections appear to be the only hope for breaking the political impasse, but short of direct intervention the military does not appear to have the leverage necessary to force the politicians in this direction. (Secret No Foreign Dissem)

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West Europeans React to Soviet CSCE Moves

The renewed Soviet push for a speedy conclusion to the European Security Conference appears to be having an effect on the West Europeans.

In the latest move, Party Chief Brezhnev sent letters to the leaders of major Western countries proposing a summit-level meeting on June 30 as a finale to the security conference. This is the first time the Soviets have suggested a specific date. The timing suggests that Moscow would like to have the security conference out of the way prior to a Brezhnev visit to the US.

The Soviet delegation in Geneva has shown new vigor in pushing the talks along. It fought hard for a short Easter recess and is attempting to get the West to begin planning for the final stage of the talks. The Soviets seem to think that a wind-up is likely without making any serious concessions to the West on the arcane problems that remain to be resolved.

Brezhnev's letter was timed to coincide with a discussion of the security conference by EC leaders at their meeting in Dublin earlier this week. They reportedly reacted very favorably to the letter and had "surprisingly few misgivings" about it. The West Europeans themselves want the conference over quickly. Several of the participants at the Dublin meeting expressed the view that the West should take advantage of Brezhnev's personal commitment to detente to see if the security conference can be concluded while Brezhnev is still on the scene.

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Nevertheless, the statement approved by the Nine on the security conference remains cautious in favoring a conclusion "at an early date and at the highest level" only if "balanced and satisfactory results" on all agenda items are achieved.

The West Europeans are not prepared at this time to pay an exorbitant price to bring the security conference to an end. In Dublin, the EC leaders called for Soviet flexibility and agreed not to cave in entirely if the Soviets continue to be intransigent. At the same time, the heads of government called for further EC study of outstanding conference issues, probably to determine where Western concessions might still ultimately be made.
(Confidential No Foreign Dissem)

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